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First U.S. Army Spouse Conference spotlights family issues

By Karen Bradshaw

First U.S. Army Public Affairs Office



First Army Senior Spouse Conference group photo with Mrs. Linda Inge (center) standing beside Mrs. Jean Ellis (dark suit). Mrs. Ellis, wife of FORSCOM commander, Gen. Larry Ellis briefed the group on family readiness. Mrs. Inge, wife of First U.S. Army commander, Lt. Gen. Joseph Inge, hosted the conference. (photo by Phil Manson)

Senior First Army spouses met in Atlanta last week for a jam-packed family conference, hosted by Mrs. Linda Inge, wife of First Army commander, Lt. Gen. Joseph Inge. The conference marked the debut of First Army's web-based Family Resource Book, which gathers web links to official sources of family information found in the Department of Defense and Department of the Army.

"We wanted to bring spouses together to talk about family readiness and how we can best assist families, discuss programs and the success stories and challenges in First Army. It was important to shine a light on the great sense of teamwork we are experiencing in all the components, whether Active, Guard or Reserve," said Mrs. Inge.

Featured speaker, Mrs. Jean Ellis, wife of FORSCOM commander, Gen. Larry Ellis, updated the group with a Family Readiness Assessment. Mrs. Ellis pointed out that Department of Defense and Army resources are a far cry today from what was available ten years ago for Reserve Component families during Desert Storm. Mrs. Ellis highlighted her observations during the past year of mobilizations, comparing the past with today's world. A decade ago, there were few family care plans for Reserve Component families

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Commander's Corner

Soldiers, Civilians and Families:

Throughout our Nation's history, soldiers with "boots on the ground" have been the proof of America's resolve and integral to the protection of our democratic freedoms. Today's soldiers – you -- are linked in spirit to the generations of fighting men and women of our Nation's great history. Your indomitable spirit and steadfast willingness to serve define America, showcasing her ideals, both at home and abroad.

As I visit units and installations throughout the First Army area, I see a commitment to preserve our way of life. I see the young people of this nation answering the call to serve their nation and its communities. This sentiment of service is reflected in the important missions we have been called to support.

The lessons of the twentieth century taught us that the world will never be completely safe for democracy. Freedom will always require vigilance and exact a high price that must be paid by the selfless service and commitment of our Armed Forces.

Soldiers guarantee the freedom and liberty we enjoy by serving with honor, courage and distinction against the tyranny of terrorism. Soldiers' commitment and service are the nation's insurance policy for our way of life as Americans.

It is important to remember those soldiers who have served this great nation in the past. These veterans understood and demonstrated a commitment to the nation and the principles on which it was founded. I encourage all of you to participate in honoring our veterans and the legacy of service they have left us.

We are creating veterans now. I ask all of you to recognize our newest veterans, the soldiers who have served our Nation so well in our global war against terrorism. Thank them by telling the story of their courage and sacrifice. Look for opportunities in your communities to speak of their commitment to the ideals of freedom. Remind our fellow citizens that peace and security still carry a high price tag.

I extend to you and your families my deep gratitude for your unwavering support and hard work in these busy times. Maintain a safe environment and take time for your loved ones.

Lt. Gen. Joseph R. Inge
Commander, First U.S. Army
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Conference (Con't)

and Desert Storm marked the development of family support groups. Limited communication with the deployed soldier was the norm in past times, however, now, the family stays in touch through satellite phones, email and video-teleconferencing. In today's world, family care plans are part of mobilization readiness. Among the services, there is a total force cooperation. Mrs. Ellis shared the Army's newest family initiatives which were briefed at last month's Army Community Services Worldwide Conference. A new web-based program was introduced called, Spouses Orientation and Leadership Development (SOLD) that will educate spouses on-line. Another initiative, "Army One Source" includes 1-800 phone numbers staffed 24-hours a day that will link Active and Reserve Components to available information. Lt. Gen. Inge, First Army commander, briefed the group on First Army's mission of training and mobilizing the Guard and Reserve in 27 states, two territories, the District of Columbia, and reminded the spouses of their role as important links to families. "Soldiers cannot do a good job if they are worried about their families," Inge said.

Family Readiness Program Coordinators from First Army's 78th, 85th and 87th Divisions (Training Support) shared their programs, successes and challenges as part of the conference agenda. Group dynamics training was incorporated in the conference along with a mini-Army Family Action Plan (AFAP) issues program. Another important program highlighted during the conference was Army Knowledge on Line (AKO) information. Help was available at the conference site for any spouse wishing to set up an AKO account. As the group shared experiences, Joan Newton, spouse of Brig. Gen. Herbert Newton, commander, 218th Inf. Brigade Mech), a South Carolina National Guard unit, was quick to note that she saw no differences between the components and it seemed to be truly one Army. Terri Blount, wife of Command Sgt. Maj. Barry Blount, 1/87th Division (Training Support), commented that the training she received at the conference would certainly provide her tools to carry over into her daily life as well as helping military families. To round out the conference, First Army's public affairs officer, Lt. Col. Robert Saxon conducted a media awareness and community involvement training session with the group.

Command Sergeant Major's Message

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**Command Sgt. Maj.
Jeffrey J. Mellinger**

During a recent ceremony, the audience was asked to stand for the playing of the Army Song, and sing along as the music played. As the band began to play, it struck me that not many soldiers present knew that the Army Song has an intro verse before the first verse, and most are completely unfamiliar with the words. In fact, most people only know the first verse. And since the Army Song is something we play and sing at nearly every ceremony we conduct, I thought it appropriate to have the song reprinted this month. Learn the words, and be proud to sing the song loudly at every opportunity.

The song was originally written by field artillery First Lieutenant [later Brigadier General] Edmund L. Gruber, while stationed in the Philippines in 1908 as the "Caisson Song." The original lyrics reflect routine activities in a horse-drawn field artillery battery. The song was transformed into a march by John Philip Sousa in 1917 and renamed "The Field Artillery Song."

It was adopted in 1952 as the official song of the Army and retitled, "The Army Goes Rolling Along." The current lyrics tell the story of our past, our present, and our future.

THE ARMY SONG

"The Army Goes Rolling Along" is the official Army song and is played on many occasions. You should stand at attention when it is played or sung. The song was dedicated on Veterans Day, November 11, 1956. The music was composed in 1908 by Lieutenant (later Brigadier General) Edmund L. Gruber and was known originally as the "Caisson Song."

"THE ARMY GOES ROLLING ALONG"

Intro

March along, sing our song
With the Army of the free.
Count the brave, count the true
Who have fought to victory.
We're the Army and proud of our name!
We're the Army and proudly proclaim:

First Verse

First to fight for the right
And to build the nation's might,
And THE ARMY GOES ROLLING ALONG.
Proud of all we have done,
Fighting till the battle's won,
And THE ARMY GOES ROLLING ALONG.

Refrain:

Then it's hi! hi! hey!
The Army's on its way.
Count off the cadence loud and strong:
For where'er we go, you will always know
That THE ARMY GOES ROLLING ALONG.

Second Verse

Valley Forge, Custer's ranks,
San Juan Hill and Patton's tanks.
And the Army went rolling along.
Minutemen from the start,
Always fighting from the heart,
And the Army keeps rolling along.

Refrain:

Then it's hi! hi! hey!
The Army's on its way.
Count off the cadence loud and strong:
For where'er we go, you will always know
That THE ARMY GOES ROLLING ALONG.

Third Verse

Men in rags, men who froze,
Still that Army met its foes,
And the Army went rolling along.
Faith in God, then we're right
And we'll As the Army keeps rolling along.

Refrain:

Then it's hi! hi! hey!
The Army's on its way,
Count off the cadence loud and strong:
(two! three!)
For where'er we go, you will always know
That THE ARMY GOES ROLLING ALONG!
(Keep it rolling!)
And THE ARMY GOES ROLLING ALONG

Small Arms Readiness Group - assisting Reserve Soldiers with marksmanship skills

By Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office



Members of the First Army Small Arms Readiness Group fire M-2 machine guns at Range 34. (Photo by Rob Schuette)

Many mobilizing soldiers training at Fort McCoy have taken advantage of the First Army Small Arms Readiness

Group to improve their weapons marksmanship. Group members were activated in March and support the installation's mobilization mission, said Army Reserve Sgt. 1st Class Jack Pardy, the team's Training and Operations noncommissioned officer.

The unit is comprised of Army Reservists headquartered at Fort Gillem, Ga. The first step in the process is a one-hour briefing, followed by use of the Laser Marksmanship Training System (LMTS).

"The training reinforces and teaches the basic skills a soldier would apply to their weapon systems," Pardy said. "The unit takes the skills from there and applies them on the ranges," Pardy said. "We train the soldiers to standard for everything the soldiers are expected to do." Generally, units mobilizing through Fort McCoy Troop Command automatically are scheduled to receive this training, Pardy said.

Other units must request the assistance, which also can include assistance with or operation of ranges during the qualifying sessions at Fort McCoy. In between the training sessions, soldiers from the Small Arms Readiness Group went out to Fort McCoy ranges to accomplish their annual qualification on the weapon systems.

Pardy, one of several group members on the Army Reserve Rifle Team, along with Master Sgt. Steve Slee, the McCoy group's NCO in charge, said the group members incorporate many of the marksmanship techniques they learned into the training program.

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"It's nice to be able to give back and share some of the marksmanship skills with Army soldiers," Pardy said. "Every soldier gets knowledge that may save someone's life in combat or training."

Sgt. 1st Class Lance Espinosa, a member of the McCoy group, said the LMTS works much like a multiple integrated laser engagement system (MILES) that records target hits using an electronic system. "The idea is to stress the fundamentals and reinforce them so the soldiers fire the weapon correctly every time," Espinosa said. "The units who have been coming to our building are doing better in qualifying than units that don't. The training saves them shooting ammunition and time and is a good training opportunity." Staff Sgt. Timothy Jelinski of the Small Arms Readiness Group at McCoy said members of several units have told them they have never shot better than after they came to the LMTS facility. Soldiers are required to qualify on their primary weapons once a year, and, he said it appears that some units do not make weapon marksmanship training a high priority because of other priorities and time limits.



Many mobilizing Army Reserve soldiers training at Fort McCoy have taken advantage of the First Army Small Arms Readiness Group to improve their weapons marksmanship. Above, Army Reserve Sgt. 1st Class Lance Espinosa fires an M-203 grenade launcher while Sgt. 1st Class Robert Riesterer, also a Reserve soldier, observes. (Photo by Rob Schuette)

"We always are looking at our training and updating it to meet the needs of our customers," Jelinski said. "That includes doing train-the-trainer sessions in our LMTS." Unit members also made the training available to other units at Fort McCoy as the mission allows, he said. The list includes personnel from the Canadian Army, several military training courses, the Naval Seabees and military personnel conducting weekend or annual training at McCoy.

Army Reserve Major plays key role in sustaining Operation Iraqi Freedom

By Andre Sanders
Army and Air Force Hometown
News Service

As American troops raced across Iraq, battling enemy forces and the elements with only a five-day supply of food, water and ammunition, many American soldiers were hoping the cavalry would arrive before their supplies ran out. Little did they know that the daughter of a St. Louis, Mo., woman was not very far away working to ensure the modern-day cavalry arrived with everything American combat troops needed to survive during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Army Reserve Maj. Patricia Mance, St. Louis, is a member of the 143d Transportation Command at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait. The unit managed port operations and truck supply lines that delivered 130,000 pieces of U.S. equipment – including trucks, trailers, helicopters and food containers -- from Kuwait to Iraq in record time during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Mance supports the re-supply mission as a transportation officer.

"I'm responsible for ensuring that people and equipment are transported throughout Kuwait and Iraq," said the 1973 graduate of Mehlville Senior High School who earned a business administration degree from Southern Illinois University. "My efforts enable equipment, cargo and personnel to be moved in and around Kuwait and Iraq, allowing the United States to deploy, sustain and redeploy forces in the theater of operations in support of operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. My secondary responsibility is to train and appoint field ordering and supply officers for each unit that is assigned here."

Thanks to the professional and personal sacrifices of people like Mance, the 143d's supply lines transport valuable cargo and supplies through a country the size of California -- rife with small pockets of Iraqi resistance.

"The most challenging part of this deployment is being away from my daughter," she said. "I can't fool



U.S. Army Reserve Maj. Patricia Mance is a member of the 143d Transportation Command at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait. The 143d has the critical job of taking in all of the vehicles and equipment that arrive from the United States and making sure they get where they're supposed to go. (Photo by Jack Braden)

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anyone -- I miss my family and friends terribly. It would be even more challenging if my husband and I didn't have friends and family members back in the U. S. to rely on to take care of our interests while we're deployed. And I'm not just a soldier. In my civilian life, I'm a contracting specialist in Alabama. My employer has been covering my responsibilities while I'm gone and I really appreciate the support."

The next test may be even tougher for the 143rd and its soldiers. Each day, more troops enter the redeployment phase of the war, as all of the equipment that was sent into Iraq has to reverse flow and return to Kuwaiti ports.

After facing the challenges associated with Operation Iraqi Freedom, Mance is sure she and her fellow soldiers will overcome the hurdles associated with redeployment. She said they've come too far and have accomplished too much to not complete their ultimate mission -- to return home to their families and friends. "I have almost 29 years of military service -- my husband has just completed 35," she said.

"My previous unit was deployed for eight months in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia in support of Desert Storm, so being away from home and facing tough challenges are nothing new to me. I know my contributions to the war effort are important. I've always said that if people don't step up to do what is needed, who will get the job done?"

Mance and the others in her unit pride themselves on letting the fighting forces take all the credit for the lightning-quick march on Baghdad, but they all know and believe in the 143d's motto -- nothing happens until something moves, and the 143d moves in a hurry.



Army soldiers with the 143d Transportation Command's motor pool at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, clean and sanitize a bulldozer upon its return from Iraq. The 143d was responsible for the safe transportation and delivery of soldiers, vehicles, ammunition and supplies into Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom. (Photo by Jack Braden)

POV accidents top killer of soldiers

*By Spc. David Cantor
Army Flier*

More soldiers die each year in privately owned vehicle accidents than from any other cause, and many of those accidents involve speeding, according to Al Brown, traffic safety manager, U.S. Army Safety Center.

In 2002, 110 soldiers died in POV accidents. Driving over the speed limit was a factor in 27 of the deaths. Between 1998 and 2002, speeding was at least one cause in almost 20 percent of fatal POV accidents and 274 deaths.

"Usually, if we have a fatal accident, it's related to speed," said Brown.

"Speeding is indicative of not following established rules," said Bob Saliewicz, safety specialist, Aviation Branch Safety Office. "If a person speeds, he probably has other flaws to his driving, like driving when tired, inattention and risk taking. Speeding is risk-taking behavior." Most often, young men are the ones who engage in these risks, said Brown.

"Males, ages 18 through 26, are the ones dying in car wrecks," Brown said. "And (most deaths) related to speed are outside of Army installations." Because there is a greater percentage of police on post than off post, people speed more off post. According to Saliewicz, this is a problem.

"One of the problems commanders have is they have visibility of a ticket given on post, but if a soldier gets a ticket off post, the commander does not always know about it," Saliewicz said.

And when commanders do not know that a soldier has a problem, they cannot help fix the problem. There are solutions to this, however, say Army officials. The Safety Center is creating a risk-assessment program, which soldiers would be required to complete with their first-line supervisor before going on pass or leave.

"We're developing tools to help the individuals identify (driving) risks and to help the leadership identify these individuals (who engage in risky behavior)," Brown said. "Speeding is only one sliver of the program we're working on, but it is speeding that is going to (most likely) kill you."

To reach that male 18- to 26-year-old age group most at risk for speeding-related deaths, the Safety Center launched an advertising campaign featuring reenactments of unsafe driving behavior -including driving - and advice on driving safety from country music stars like Patty Loveless and Travis Tritt. The filmed commercials ran before

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movies at theaters on Army installations. A new campaign is planned with NASCAR drivers.

Noting the seeming incongruity of NASCAR drivers telling others to not drive too fast and drive safely, Brown said that the scripts for the NASCAR drivers include them saying how their fast driving is done under safer conditions than regular drivers have.

Although Army advertising about driving safety is the same, Army training on driving safety is not. Some installations use video tapes while some have classes with driving instructors.

"The biggest problem we have is there is no overall standard Army training program for accident avoidance and defensive driving," Saliewicz said. "Everybody doing the same thing will not necessarily solve everything, but it will be a starting point."

Noting that many soldiers earned their drivers' licenses years earlier, Brown said he thinks many could use Army-mandated driver training "as a reminder."

How commanders can help those with driving problems or deter bad driving is a subject with varying opinions.

Brown said he sees irony in the fact that POV accidents kill more soldiers than any other cause, including combat.

"There have been soldiers who returned (from war) and survived combat then died while driving a vehicle too fast," Brown said.

While there are steps others can take to deter speeding and other unsafe driving behavior and to help unsafe drivers, ultimately the decision to speed or not to speed is up to every individual driver.

"You have to change your behavior if you are going to quit speeding," Brown said. "If you don't speed, you have a better chance of survival. If you speed, you have more of a chance to die than from any other reason."

"Hope Lives When You Give"



**1 September 2003
15 December 2003**

Iraqi Ten-Miler gets jump on local run

By Pfc. Justin Nieto
Army News Service

Troops deployed to carry out Operation Iraqi Freedom are preparing to run 10 miles Sunday under the blazing desert sun.

Soldiers positioned just outside of Balad at the Logistical Support Area Anaconda, a former Iraqi Air Force Academy base one hour north of Baghdad, are hosting their own version of the Army Ten-Miler amid the swirling sands of Iraq Oct. 5 at 7 a.m., which translates into midnight Saturday for those in the United States.

The run, which consists of a timed, 10-mile run around the inner section of the base, is open to every soldier currently stationed in Iraq.

As of now more than 500 soldiers are scheduled to participate in the event, which is designed to give the soldiers a boost in morale and give them a change of pace from the everyday duties of a soldier deployed during war-time.

All of the runners will be broken down in to male, female or team categories for the run.

Teams will run the distance as a relay. The guidon of the unit the team represents will be handed off at equal intervals, each of the four runners running two and a half miles.

Organizers have enlisted volunteer teams to provide race support along the route. Each team will be responsible for a different mile of the race, providing water points, medics, timers and entertainment and encouragement for the runners. At the end, the runners will vote on the "best mile."

After the race, there will be an awards ceremony for the winners in each of the categories at about 10 a.m. There will even be a pre-race pasta dinner Saturday night and a rock concert by members of the 76th Army Band for everyone running in the event.

Results of the Iraqi Ten-Miler will be available to runners in the Army Ten-Miler at the Pentagon on race morning.

Readiness...



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New 'Human Resources Command' to go online

Army News Service

Visitors to the U.S. Army Personnel Command and Army Reserve Personnel Command's Web pages will see a new look in October.

PERSCOM and AR-PERSCOM will merge to form the U.S. Army Human Resources Command on Oct. 2 in a Pentagon courtyard ceremony.

The new HRC Web page will go online that day, according to Col. Marshall Fite, the PERSCOM chief information officer. The front page will link to active and Army Reserve promotion and school information lists, the 'My2xcitizen' portal, Army Knowledge online, Assignment Satisfaction Key and the Official Military Personnel File page.

"The initial change will just be the front page of the HRC Web site. As the new organization continues to evolve, the Web site will change to reflect the organization," said Fite. "No information will be lost in the transition."



Make A Difference Day

October 25, 2003

Make A Difference Day is the most encompassing national day of helping others - a celebration of neighbors helping neighbors. Everyone can participate. Created by USA WEEK-END Magazine, Make A Difference Day is an annual event that takes place on the fourth Saturday of every October. The next event is Saturday, October 25, 2003. Your project can be as large or as small as you wish! Look around your community and see what needs to be done.

New PT regimen heading your way

Story and picture by Sgt. Trinace Johnson
Army News Service



Staff Sgt. Chance Finely, with the 1-204th Air Defense Artillery, National Guard, practices the squat bender during the PT course.

A team from the U.S. Army Physical Fitness School is visiting Army installations to teach a

new exercise regimen that includes pull-ups, the shuttle sprint, squat bender, rower and forward lunge. The school's commandant began by visiting Fort Bliss last week to teach physical training instructors the exercises designed to improve muscle strength, endurance and mobility, while focusing on fitness for everyday life. There are no immediate plans to change the Army's physical fitness test, officials said, just how soldiers prepare for it.

The 6th Air Defense Artillery Brigade sponsored the training last week that involved more than 60 soldiers from various units on Bliss, including National Guard soldiers and German Air Force members. Fort Bliss was the first Army installation to be introduced to the new program that was just approved for trial less than three weeks ago.

Lt. Col. William Rieger, U.S. Army Physical Fitness School commandant, and deputy commandant Frank Palkoska, both said that the new PT would be standardized, disciplined and have a more military appearance. They also said that the program would be more designed toward the individual soldier's needs and ability and not just a "mass one" level of participation.

Some of the key points in the program will be to:

- Improve physical fitness while controlling injuries
- Progressively condition and toughen soldiers
- Develop soldiers' self-confidence and discipline

"We're going to be training as we fight," said Sgt. Jeffrey J. Hernandez, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 6th ADA Brigade.

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"We had a lot of injuries in the past," Hernandez said. He said that the USAPFS is set to teach this PT to basic trainees and anticipates saving money on hospital costs. "With these exercises we will be able to better control injuries," said Staff Sgt. Emerson Hazzard, 6th Brigade operations noncommissioned officer and student of the new PT demonstration class. "We'll never be able to get rid of injuries. The Army had to come up with a plan to get the max amount out of a soldier without breaking him," Hazzard said. Rieger said that this program is not a drastic change from what the Army has always been doing, it's just doing it better. "There's no bad exercise, only exercises that are done incorrectly or with the improper intensity, order, volume and amount of repetitions," Rieger said.

Palkoska said that when he teaches soldiers in the field, he wants to make sure they understand why they are being taught the particular way of doing the exercises and why they could endure longer if they use the USAPFS program.

In addition, both Rieger and Palkoska said that this program would improve soldier performance that is related to their jobs. For instance, if a soldier has a job that requires him or her to move fast in a moment's notice, the shuttle sprint or start, stop and change direction run that was taught should help with that.

"An active or dynamic exercise like the forward lunge is better for stretching," Rieger said. He said the USAPFS wanted soldiers to do exercises that applied to the functional strength of what they're doing. For instance, he said the high jumper works with soldiers who are airborne. Rieger said that part of the program was designed to train the muscles to respond anaerobically, using less oxygen, as well as aerobically, using more oxygen. "You have to stress the body in different ways with a combination of activities to improve," Rieger said. He suggested doing one minute of push-ups with no rest to assess strength.

"We're educating soldiers so they know they can do it and believe they can do it, because they've practiced it on a regular basis," Palkoska said.

Fort Jackson, S.C., is the next installation on Rieger and Palkoska's list. "We're going to every single installation in the Army," Rieger said, adding that it may take a couple of years.



Dix's 'other chapel' still serving the post

Spc. Eugena C. Roaché
444th MPAD/ Fort Dix PAO



Army Reserve Chaplain (Col.) Frederick Schoenfeld - who arrived in January during a spike in deployments - wanted to open the church to "provide a religious support operation for soldiers." (Photo by Spc. Eugena C. Roaché)

The whispers of worship, peacefulness of prayer, and the serenity that can be found in a sermon have escaped many here at Fort Dix. It is not just those who do not attend services at the post's Main Chapel, but those who are unaware that there is also another chapel that welcomes worshippers with open arms. Chapel 5 (Bldg 5950), which is convenient to mobilization barracks, reopened in February 2003, holding its first service on Feb. 9. It's welcome has helped many, but eluded many more.

Chaplain (Col.) Thomas Schoenfeld - who arrived in January during a spike in deployments - wanted to open the church to "provide a religious support operation for soldiers." With the blessings and assistance of installation personnel, Chapel 5 had been revived less than two weeks after Schoenfeld's arrival here. "We got wonderful support from Chaplain (Col. Richard T.) Vann, the post commander, engineers, and the 78th Division," boasted Schoenfeld. "It didn't make any sense for this building to be

empty... this is where the soldiers were. They lived right here."

Prior to the reopening of Chapel 5, services were being held in the dayroom of a building near the Soldier Readiness Processing (SRP) site. According to Schoenfeld, the attendance increased by 500 percent after services relocated to Chapel 5, and during the spike, could exceed 200 soldiers in one day. In fact, the chapel doors remained opened from 7 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. throughout the duration of the influx of soldiers. "The response rate was phenomenal. This was a big 'plus' as well as a big commitment," he confirmed.

Schoenfeld had the assistance of many chaplains

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that were mobilizing here, as well as others. Those who Schoenfeld met, he now tracks on a dry-erase board in his office. He records the location of each. Among those tracked on his board is Maj. James Kirsche of the 310th Military Police Company. Kirsche accompanied Schoenfeld in ministering during his first mass at Chapel 5. "It was great," Schoenfeld said of the service, smiling. Seeming to easily recall names and situations, Schoenfeld shared his memory of the morning. "Our very first mass was 16 people; we counted. Shortly after the mass came to an end, a lone soldier came in, covered in snow, and was greatly disappointed at having missed the morning service." Sensing his distress, Schoenfeld yelled from the rear of the church, "Father, can we have another mass?"

"For how many?" Kirsche asked.

"Just one," answered Schoenfeld.

"Well, sure," Kirsche agreed.

Much to their surprise, the soldier returned to the door and yelled, "Come on in guys!" And they then ministered to 46 more soldiers. "It was wonderful," grinned Schoenfeld. The anecdote seemed to be much the epitome of Schoenfeld's personal mission. "I wanted to leave some testimony, some witness," he said of his presence here. Having ministered at his home church in Bergenfield for 30 years, Schoenfeld said.

Because most of those who visited the chapel when it opened were soldiers who were mobilizing, Schoenfeld wanted to help them address what issues they could while they were here. "You would see soldiers outside all the time, talking on cell phones - to family, trying to handle business, and situate things. Everybody doesn't have cell phones. ...But they do have AKO," he grinned. Referring to the blue wiring tracing the wall, Schoenfeld declared, "I said 'we've got to get some computers in here'." And they did. Col. Richard Fink and Maj. John Brandenburg of the 78th Division helped to obtain computers from Fort Monmouth, and by March, the chapel had 10 computers that soldiers could use to communicate with their families via email. Since it reopened, the chapel hosted 18 weddings, including the talked-about triple ceremony ministered by Cpt. Charles Yost of the 323rd Military Intelligence Battalion. It has held Catholic, Protestant, Greek orthodox services, and Bible study sessions.

"This church is also a retreat for the unit ministry teams. It gives them a place to go when they need to pray, have bible study, or just talk to another chaplain," Schoenfeld added. "There used to be five chapels on Fort Dix," he remembered. Now, Chapel 5 is the only other besides the Main Chapel.

A Streamlined Army Reserve

By James R. Helmly

Chief, U.S. Army Reserve.

United States Army Reserve News Item



Lt. Gen. Helmly

Our current military deployments are taking their toll on Army Reserve soldiers and their families in communities all over America. Tens of thousands of husbands and wives, fathers and mothers, were called up in recent months, some with less than 48 hours' notice, and sent to Iraq or elsewhere. Some were told that they would serve longer than expected.

When terrorists struck on Sept. 11, 2001, and the president called up the Army Reserve, short notice was understandable. What's less understandable to some is when we provide short notice even for events that are under our control. We did not provide reasonable notice for the Army Reserve soldiers shipped off to Iraq, nor did we do so for those called to serve as part of our force in the Balkans.

It's not a pretty picture, and nobody knows that better than I and my colleagues in the Army Reserve. But while we struggle to make things better for today's reserve soldiers, we are doing something else that has largely escaped notice: We are transforming the Army Reserve to prevent such problems down the road.

From top to bottom, we are overhauling the process by which we prepare and deploy our forces. We plan to organize, train, sustain, mobilize and deploy our units in a much different way.

We do this because we must. Never before has the Army Reserve been asked to do as much as it does today. What was once a "force in reserve" has become a full partner across the spectrum of operations to satisfy the demands and needs of our country and our Army around the world.

Numbers tell the story. Army Reserve soldiers have been deployed 10 times in the past 12 years for operations from Bosnia to Iraq. During the 75 years before that, the Army Reserve had been mobilized just nine times. Since December 1995, we have been in a continuous state of mobilization, with an average of nearly 9,300 soldiers mobilized each year. The years after Sept. 11 have seen more than 80,000 Army Reserve soldiers mobilized to fight the global war on terrorism.

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Today reserve missions around the world are engaged in intelligence gathering, investigation, training, legal support, communications, postal and personnel support, engineering, mortuary services, logistic and transportation operations, medical support and civil affairs.

Army Reserve soldiers are no longer an add-on to military operations. They are increasingly part of a joint, interoperable team with our full-time uniformed men and women in the business of fighting and winning the nation's wars.

With that in mind, the Army Reserve is implementing a transformation plan to create a better balance between answering the call to duty and taking care of our Army Reserve soldiers and their families. It's also a plan that will provide greater security for the country.

We are reengineering the mobilization process to make it more streamlined; refocusing our regional commands to better support soldiers and their families; restructuring units for increased relevance; improving human resources operations; and improving the pool of skilled soldier volunteers to combatant commanders.

Our intent is to build a rotational force, so that we do not have to mobilize an Army Reserve soldier for more than a nine- to 12-month period in a five- to six-year window. We will add soldiers in high-demand jobs, lessening the burden on those already in these fields and providing a more predictable deployment routine to soldiers, their families and their employers. In many ways, the employers of our reserve soldiers are the unrecognized heroes of our current activities. They deserve the thanks of all Americans for the support they give the Army Reserve.

Transformation will take some time. We are doing it as quickly as we can, and we must do it right. We all owe it to the dedicated men and women now serving -- and to those who will serve -- in the Army Reserve.



Determined Promise 2003 tested the 4th Brigade, 85th Division's Defense Liaison Element

*Article and picture by Major Clifford T. Burgess
4th Bde, 85th Div (TS)*

Determined Promise 2003 was a nationwide exercise that tested the United States Northern Command's (NORTHCOM) ability to react to and manage a host of simultaneously occurring homeland security events. These events ranged from a Category IV hurricane in the southeast, to disease outbreaks in the west, to various terrorist threats across the country. One event, the derailment of rail cars carrying Department of Defense cargo near Barkley Dam, Kentucky, required the employment of a Forces Command (FORSCOM) Quick Reaction Force (QRF) to secure the derailment site. As the QRF would conduct this mission in the 4th Brigade, 85th Division (TS) area of operations, this required that the 4th Brigade to activate its Defense Liaison Element (DLE) to provide command and control as well as logistical support for the QRF.

This training opportunity allowed the 4th Brigade to fully exercise its DLE mission. In the early hours of August 23, the 4th Brigade DLE deployed team members to the incident site at Barkley Dam and to the Air Port of Debarkation (APOD) at Fort Campbell, Ky. The team that went initially to the incident site set up the Brigade's DLE Mobile Command Post, established communications with higher headquarters, made initial coordination with the US Army Corp of Engineers, the Lead Federal Agency (LFA) at the site, and conducted initial mission assessments and planning for the QRF's employment.

The 4th Brigade DLE team members that deployed to the APOD coordinated for the transportation and logistical support of the QRF with Fort Campbell's Readiness Business Center. This team then awaited the arrival of the QRF, A Company "Warriors" of the 2d Battalion, 5th U. S. Cavalry from Fort Hood's 1st Cavalry Division. The "Warriors" of the QRF arrived at Fort Campbell at 1230 on August 23, where they were greeted by Defense Liaison Officer (DLO) and briefed on their mission by the DLE Operations officer. At the same time, the DCE Logistics Officer and a team from 3397th Garrison Support Unit (GSU) loaded the QRF's personnel and equipment on transports for movement to the incident site. The Kentucky Army National Guard also supported this operation with a UH-60 that provided the QRF key leaders with an opportunity to conduct an aerial reconnaissance of the incident site and for the DLO to more rapidly move back and forth between home station, the APOD and the incident site.

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QRF loads out for movement to incident site.

Upon arrival at the derailment site, the QRF secured the rail cars, briefed the DLO on the security plan, and then maintained security until the derailed train had been placed back on the tracks and safely departed the area. Following this, the DLE and QRF received orders to disengage and redeploy. Throughout the exercise, the DLE team continued to keep First Army, the next higher HQ in the mission, informed with continuous updates and reports while also continuing coordination with the LFA.

Just as with the QRF movement to the incident site, the DLE team and 3397th GSU transported the soldiers and equipment of QRF back to the APOD, and reloaded the QRF onto a pair of Air National Guard C-130's. After a quick After Action Review, these two aircraft departed Fort Campbell at 0900 on the 24th to return the "Warriors" to their home at Fort Hood, Texas. The DLE team members followed, redeploying to their home station at Fort Knox, Ky. by ground transportation.

The exercise at Barkley Dam combined the efforts of an Active Duty QRF from Fort Hood, an AC/RC DLE team from Fort Knox, an Army Reserve unit, the 3397th Garrison Support Unit from Fort Campbell, and aviation support from the KYARNG. The QRF and DLE both greatly benefited from this valuable opportunity to exercise all their responsibilities required to support the Lead Federal Agency at the incident site. They gathered many lessons learned that will allow their team members to refine their operating procedures to provide even more efficient support to future DLE missions whether training or actual events. The 4th Brigade is now better prepared to execute its crucial Defense Liaison Element mission and make greater contributions to supporting homeland security.



Eligible Type O blood donors needed

American Forces Press Service

The Armed Services Blood Program (ASBP) is looking for a few good donors. Actually, more than a few are needed. Donors with Type O blood are being asked to roll up their sleeves to support ongoing military operations worldwide and to help replenish the military's frozen blood reserves.

The Armed Services Blood Program needs eligible Type O blood donors to support ongoing military operations worldwide and to replenish the military's frozen blood reserves.

"Type O donors are the first line of defense for trauma victims. Until a blood type can be verified, Type O blood is used to keep trauma victims alive," said Air Force Lt. Col. Ruth Sylvester, Armed Services Blood Program director. "Once their blood type is determined, type-specific blood is transfused. But without Type O blood available, many patients would never make it until the test results came back."

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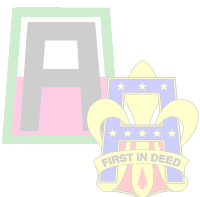
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A single battlefield injury victim can require more than 40 units of blood in an emergency. Type O donors are especially important to readiness because their blood can be transfused safely for all blood types, especially in remote areas where it's not possible to test for blood type.

The Armed Services Blood Program also needs Type O blood to maintain its frozen blood reserve. The military maintains a supply of frozen red blood cells to use when fresh blood is not immediately available. Since frozen blood can be safely stored for up to 10 years, it ensures that blood is always readily available to meet the military's needs worldwide.

Making the present need more acute is that the military blood donor centers can only collect blood from active duty service members, government employees, retirees and military family members. That excludes many Operation Iraqi Freedom veterans, who are deferred from donating for one year because they served in areas where malaria is endemic. This makes regular donations from eligible donors critical.

Blood program officials encourage potential donors or those who could sponsor a group blood drive to contact their local military blood collection facility.



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[Send us your stories or story ideas.](#)

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